

Will the broadcast flag interfere with consumers ability to make copies of DTV content for their personal use, either on personal video recorders or removable media?

I believe this broadcast flag will interfere with every consumers' ability to copy DTV content. Consumers would then have to buy specialized equipment and/or software and possibly even have to pay extra fees to keep the right to copy public digital media. Many consumers like to use different types of broadcast media such as sound clips or images for other personal media uses. I think this proposed broadcast flag would limit or inhibit these practices.

Would the digital flag interfere with consumers ability to send DTV content across networks, such as home digital networks connecting digital set top boxes, digital recorders, digital servers and digital display devices?

If you have to have specialized equipment to detect and verify this broadcast flag, no one will be able to send DTV data across existing networks. We as consumers do not want to have to buy specialized equipment to continue with this practice. It needs to be mandated that this proposed broadcast flag be backwards compliant with all digital networks and related equipment and/or software.

Would a broadcast flag requirement limit the development of future equipment providing consumers with new options?

Yes, the future developement of DTV equipment would then be restricted to handling this broadcast flag, therefore limiting the developement.

What will be the cost impact, if any, that a broadcast flag requirement would have on consumer electronics equipment?

The only reason I feel this broadcast flag is being proposed is so that the DTV industry can raise the cost of DTV services, and the consumers will absolutely have to pay for new equipment to handle this different type of regulation on DTV. It should be the option of the consumer to buy new equipment if he/she wants new or upgraded broadcasting, but the consumer should not have to pay more just to continue their current DTV/media practices.